

**COMMITTEE OF THE FULL BOARD**

Special Meeting

August 1, 2022

**MONDAY  
August 1, 2022**

**8:00 a.m.**

**COMMITTEE OF THE FULL BOARD – Room 1-104**

*Public testimony – Individual testimony will be taken at the time the related item comes up for committee discussion or action. The procedures for registering and taking public testimony at State Board of Education committee meetings and general board meetings are provided at <https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/leadership/state-board-of-education/sboe-meetings/sboe-operating-rules> or in the information section of the agenda.*

1. **Public Hearing on Proposed New 19 TAC Chapter 113, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Social Studies, Subchapter A, Elementary, Subchapter B, Middle School, Subchapter C, High School, and Subchapter D, Other Social Studies Courses (Board agenda page I-1)** COMMITTEE - DISCUSSION  
SBOE - NO ACTION

A public hearing before the State Board of Education (SBOE) is scheduled for Monday, August 1, 2022, in the William B. Travis Building, Room 1-104. Testimony will be presented regarding proposed new 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 113, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Social Studies, Subchapter A, Elementary, Subchapter B, Middle School, Subchapter C, High School, and Subchapter D, Other Social Studies Courses. In accordance with SBOE operating procedures, oral testimony will be limited to two minutes per person. Additionally, the public hearing will be limited to no more than six hours. Statutory authority is the Texas Education Code (TEC), §§7.102(c)(4); 28.002(a), (c), (h), (h-1), (h-2); and 28.025(a).

2. **Discussion of Proposed New 19 TAC Chapter 113, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Social Studies, Subchapter A, Elementary, Subchapter B, Middle School, Subchapter C, High School, and Subchapter D, Other Social Studies Courses (Board agenda page I-4)** COMMITTEE - DISCUSSION  
SBOE - NO ACTION

This item provides an opportunity for the board to discuss proposed new 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 113, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Social Studies, Subchapter A, Elementary, Subchapter B, Middle School, Subchapter C, High School, and Subchapter D, Other Social Studies Courses. The proposed new sections would update the standards to ensure they remain current and comply with recent statutory changes. Statutory authority is the Texas Education Code (TEC), §§7.102(c)(4); 28.002(a), (c), (h), (h-1), (h-2); 28.0021; and 28.025(a) and (b-1)(4).

**Public Hearing on Proposed New 19 TAC Chapter 113, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Social Studies, Subchapter A, Elementary, Subchapter B, Middle School, Subchapter C, High School, and Subchapter D, Other Social Studies Courses**

**August 1, 2022**

**COMMITTEE OF THE FULL BOARD: DISCUSSION  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION: NO ACTION**

**SUMMARY:** A public hearing before the State Board of Education (SBOE) is scheduled for Monday, August 1, 2022, in the William B. Travis Building, Room 1-104. Testimony will be presented regarding proposed new 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 113, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Social Studies, Subchapter A, Elementary, Subchapter B, Middle School, Subchapter C, High School, and Subchapter D, Other Social Studies Courses. In accordance with SBOE operating procedures, oral testimony will be limited to two minutes per person. Additionally, the public hearing will be limited to no more than six hours.

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** Texas Education Code (TEC), §§7.102(c)(4); 28.002(a), (c), (h), (h-1), (h-2); and 28.025(a).

TEC, §7.102(c)(4), requires the State Board of Education (SBOE) to establish curriculum and graduation requirements.

TEC, §28.002(a), identifies the subjects of the required curriculum.

TEC, §28.002(c), requires the SBOE to identify by rule the essential knowledge and skills of each subject in the required curriculum that all students should be able to demonstrate and that will be used in evaluating instructional materials and addressed on the state assessment instruments.

TEC, §28.002(h), requires the SBOE and each school district to require the teaching of informed patriotism, Texas history, and the free enterprise system in the adoption of instructional materials for kindergarten through grade 12, including the founding documents of the United States.

TEC, §28.002(h-1), requires the SBOE to adopt essential knowledge and skills that develop each student's civic knowledge, including an understanding of the fundamental moral, political, and intellectual foundations of the American experiment in self-government; the history, qualities, traditions, and features of civic government in the United States; the structure, function, and processes of local, state, and federal, government institutions; and the founding documents of the United States.

TEC, §28.002(h-2), requires the SBOE to adopt essential knowledge and skills that develop each student's civic knowledge, including an understanding of the fundamental moral, political, entrepreneurial, and intellectual foundations of the American experiment in self-government; the history, qualities, traditions, and features of civic government in the United States; the structure, function, and processes of local, state, and federal, government institutions; and the founding documents of the United States; the ability to analyze and determine the reliability of information sources, formulate and articulate reasoned positions, understand the manner in which local, state, and federal governments works and operates through the use of simulations and models of governmental and democratic processes, actively listen and engage in civic discourse, and participate as a citizen in a constitutional democracy by voting; and an appreciation of the importance and responsibility of participating in civic life, a commitment to the United States and its form of government, and a commitment to free speech and civil discourse.

TEC, §28.025(a), requires the SBOE to by rule determine the curriculum requirements for the foundation high school graduation program that are consistent with the required curriculum under TEC, §28.002.

The full text of statutory citations can be found in the statutory authority section of this agenda.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:** The TEKS for social studies and economics were originally adopted effective September 1, 1998. The Kindergarten-Grade 12 social studies TEKS and the TEKS for economics were revised effective August 23, 2010. In 2018, the SBOE approved streamlining revisions to the social studies TEKS for Kindergarten to Grade 8 and four high school social studies course (U.S. History Studies, World History Studies, World Geography, United States Government). The SBOE also streamlined the TEKS for Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and its Benefits and consolidated the TEKS for economics into Chapter 113.

In 2015, the SBOE adopted revisions to the TEKS for certain Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) social studies courses to require that students demonstrate proficiency in the TEKS for the corresponding AP and IB courses in addition to the AP or IB course requirements.

In 2021, the 87th Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill (SB )1063, amending TEC, §28.025, to add a one-half credit course in personal financial literacy and economics as an option to meet the one-half credit graduation requirement for economics under the Foundation High School Program. SB 1063 requires that the SBOE adopt TEKS for the personal financial literacy and economics course and that the required curriculum for the course allocate two-thirds of the instructional time to personal financial literacy and one-third of instructional time to economics.

Additionally, the 87th Texas Legislature passed House Bill (HB) 4509 (Regular Session, 2021) and SB 3 (Second-Called Session, 2021), to require the teaching of informed patriotism and the founding documents of the United States and require the SBOE to adopt essential knowledge and skills for social studies that develop each student's civic knowledge, including an understanding of the fundamental moral, political, and intellectual foundations of the U.S. government.

At the June and November 2021 SBOE meetings, the board discussed the review of the social studies TEKS. Board members designated content advisors for the social studies TEKS review in August 2021. An application to serve on work groups was posted on the TEA website in September 2021. Additionally, in September 2021, a survey was posted on the TEA website to ask for feedback on the current TEKS for social studies. TEA staff provided SBOE members applications for approval to serve on the social studies work groups in September, October, and November 2021 and January and April 2022. The content advisors convened to discuss consensus recommendations in December 2021 and January 2022. In April 2022, the SBOE asked TEA to convene work groups to develop TEKS for two additional ethnic studies courses, Native American studies and Asian American studies. The SBOE directed future work groups to develop TEKS for kindergarten–grade 8 as follows: the TEKS for kindergarten–grade 2 would address topics in Texas, U.S., and world history thematically and work groups should look to see if there are other organizational options for organizing the kindergarten–grade 2 content; and the TEKS for grades 3–8 would address history chronologically with grades 3-5 focusing on world history and grades 6-8 focusing on Texas and U.S. history. In May 2022, the SBOE convened a special meeting to hear public feedback on the proposed new framework for the kindergarten–grade 8 TEKS. Work groups were convened to develop recommendations for the social studies TEKS in January, February, March, April, May, June, and July 2022.

Proposed new 19 TAC Chapter 113, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Social Studies, Subchapter A, Elementary, Subchapter B, Middle School, and Subchapter C, High School, and Subchapter D, Other Social Studies Courses is presented for discussion as a separate item in this agenda.

**Staff Members Responsible:**

Monica Martinez, Associate Commissioner, Standards and Programs

Shelly Ramos, Senior Director, Curriculum Standards and Student Support

**Discussion of Proposed New 19 TAC Chapter 113, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Social Studies, Subchapter A, Elementary, Subchapter B, Middle School, Subchapter C, High School, and Subchapter D, Other Social Studies Courses**

**August 1, 2022**

**COMMITTEE OF THE FULL BOARD: DISCUSSION  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION: NO ACTION**

**SUMMARY:** This item provides an opportunity for the board to discuss proposed new 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 113, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Social Studies, Subchapter A, Elementary, Subchapter B, Middle School, Subchapter C, High School, and Subchapter D, Other Social Studies Courses. The proposed new sections would update the standards to ensure they remain current and comply with recent statutory changes.

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** Texas Education Code (TEC), §§7.102(c)(4); 28.002(a), (c), (h), (h-1), (h-2); 28.0021; and 28.025(a) and (b-1)(4).

TEC, §7.102(c)(4), requires the State Board of Education (SBOE) to establish curriculum and graduation requirements.

TEC, §28.002(a), identifies the subjects of the required curriculum.

TEC, §28.002(c), requires the SBOE to identify by rule the essential knowledge and skills of each subject in the required curriculum that all students should be able to demonstrate and that will be used in evaluating instructional materials and addressed on the state assessment instruments.

TEC, §28.002(h), requires the SBOE and each school district to require the teaching of informed patriotism, Texas history, and the free enterprise system in the adoption of instructional materials for Kindergarten-Grade 12, including the founding documents of the United States.

TEC, §28.002(h-1), requires the SBOE to adopt essential knowledge and skills that develop each student's civic knowledge, including an understanding of the fundamental moral, political, and intellectual foundations of the American experiment in self-government; the history, qualities, traditions, and features of civic government in the United States; the structure, function, and processes of local, state, and federal, government institutions; and the founding documents of the United States.

TEC, §28.002(h-2), requires the SBOE to adopt essential knowledge and skills that develop each student's civic knowledge, including an understanding of the fundamental moral, political, entrepreneurial, and intellectual foundations of the American experiment in self-government; the history, qualities, traditions, and features of civic government in the United States; the structure, function, and processes of local, state, and federal, government institutions; and the founding documents of the United States; the ability to analyze and determine the reliability of information sources, formulate and articulate reasoned positions, understand the manner in which local, state, and federal governments work and operate through the use of simulations and models of governmental and democratic processes, actively listen and engage in civic discourse, and participate as a citizen in a constitutional democracy by voting; and an appreciation of the importance and responsibility of participating in civic life, a commitment to the United States and its form of government, and a commitment to free speech and civil discourse.

TEC, §28.0021, requires the SBOE to adopt essential knowledge and skills in personal financial literacy in one or more courses offered for high school graduation and requires each school district to provide an elective course in personal financial literacy, which should include instruction on completing the application for federal student aid provided by the United States Department of Education.

TEC, §28.025(a), requires the SBOE to determine by rule the curriculum requirements for the foundation high school graduation program that are consistent with the required curriculum under TEC, §28.002.

TEC, 28.025(b-1)(4), requires the SBOE to by rule require that students successfully complete three credits in social studies, including one credit in United States history, at least one-half credit in government and at least one-half credit in economics or personal financial literacy and economics, and one credit in world geography or world history.

The full text of statutory citations can be found in the statutory authority section of this agenda.

**FUTURE ACTION EXPECTED:** First reading and filing authorization of proposed new 19 TAC Chapter 113, Subchapters A-D, will be presented at a future SBOE meeting.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND JUSTIFICATION:** The Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for social studies and economics were originally adopted effective September 1, 1998. The Kindergarten-Grade 12 social studies TEKS and the TEKS for economics were revised effective August 23, 2010. In 2018, the SBOE approved streamlining revisions to the social studies TEKS for Kindergarten to Grade 8 and four high school social studies course (U.S. History Studies, World History Studies, World Geography, United States Government). The SBOE also streamlined the TEKS for Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and its Benefits and consolidated the TEKS for economics into Chapter 113.

In 2015, the SBOE adopted revisions to the TEKS for certain Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) social studies courses to require that students demonstrate proficiency in the TEKS for the corresponding AP and IB courses in addition to the AP or IB course requirements.

In 2021, Senate Bill (SB)1063, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, amended TEC, §28.025, to add a one-half credit course in personal financial literacy and economics as an option to meet the one-half credit graduation requirement for economics under the Foundation High School Program. SB 1063 required that the SBOE adopt TEKS for the personal financial literacy and economics course and that the required curriculum for the course allocate two-thirds of the instructional time to personal financial literacy and one-third of instructional time to economics.

Additionally, House Bill (HB) 4509, 87th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, and SB 3, 87th Texas Legislature, Second Called Session, 2021, require the teaching of informed patriotism and the founding documents of the United States and require the SBOE to adopt essential knowledge and skills for social studies that develop each student's civic knowledge, including an understanding of the fundamental moral, political, and intellectual foundations of the U.S. government.

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advisors convened to discuss consensus recommendations in December 2021 and January 2022. In April 2022, the SBOE asked TEA to convene work groups to develop TEKS for two additional ethnic studies courses: Native American studies and Asian American studies. The SBOE directed future work groups to develop TEKS for Kindergarten-Grade 8 as follows: the TEKS for Kindergarten-Grade 2 would address topics in Texas, U.S., and world history thematically and work groups should look to see if there are other organizational options for organizing the Kindergarten-Grade 2 content; and the TEKS for Grades 3-8 would address history chronologically with Grades 3-5 focusing on world history and Grades 6-8 focusing on Texas and U.S. history. In May 2022, the SBOE convened a special meeting to hear public feedback on the proposed new framework for the Kindergarten-Grade 8 TEKS. Work groups were convened to develop recommendations for the social studies TEKS in January, February, March, April, May, June, and July 2022.

**Staff Members Responsible:**

Monica Martinez, Associate Commissioner, Standards and Programs  
Shelly Ramos, Senior Director, Curriculum Standards and Student Support

**Separate Exhibit:**

Proposed New 19 TAC Chapter 113, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Social Studies, Subchapter A, Elementary, Subchapter B, Middle School, Subchapter C, High School, and Subchapter D, Other Social Studies Courses  
(to be provided in advance of the meeting)



TEXAS EDUCATION CODE  
CHAPTER 7. STATE ORGANIZATION  
SUBCHAPTER D. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

**TEC, §7.102. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION POWERS AND DUTIES.**

- (a) The board may perform only those duties relating to school districts or regional education service centers assigned to the board by the constitution of this state or by this subchapter or another provision of this code.
- (b) The board has the powers and duties provided by Subsection (c), which shall be carried out with the advice and assistance of the commissioner.
- (c)
  - (1) The board shall develop and update a long-range plan for public education.
  - (2) The board may enter into contracts relating to or accept grants for the improvement of educational programs specifically authorized by statute.
  - (3) The board may accept a gift, donation, or other contribution on behalf of the public school system or agency and, unless otherwise specified by the donor, may use the contribution in the manner the board determines.
  - (4) The board shall establish curriculum and graduation requirements.
  - (5) Repealed by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 943 (H.B. [3](#)), Sec. 4.001(a)(1), eff. September 1, 2019.
  - (6) The board may create special-purpose school districts under Chapter [11](#).
  - (7) The board shall provide for a training course for school district trustees under Section [11.159](#).
  - (8) The board shall adopt a procedure to be used for placing on probation or revoking a home-rule school district charter as required by Subchapter B, Chapter [12](#), and may place on probation or revoke a home-rule school district charter as provided by that subchapter.
  - (9) Repealed by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 439 (S.B. [1376](#)), Sec. 4.01(a)(1), eff. June 4, 2019.
  - (10) The board shall adopt rules establishing criteria for certifying hearing examiners as provided by Section [21.252](#).
  - (11) The board shall adopt rules to carry out the curriculum required or authorized under Section [28.002](#).
  - (12) The board shall establish guidelines for credit by examination under Section [28.023](#).
  - (13) The board shall adopt transcript forms and standards for differentiating high school programs for purposes of reporting academic achievement under Section [28.025](#).
  - (14) The board shall adopt guidelines for determining financial need for purposes of the Texas Advanced Placement Incentive Program under Subchapter C, Chapter [28](#), and may approve payments as provided by that subchapter.
  - (15) The board shall adopt criteria for identifying gifted and talented students and shall develop and update a state plan for the education of gifted and talented students as required under Subchapter D, Chapter [29](#).
  - (16) Repealed by Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 73, Sec. 2.06(a)(1), eff. September 1, 2013.
  - (17) The board shall adopt rules relating to community education development projects as required under Section [29.257](#).
  - (18) The board may approve the plan to be developed and implemented by the commissioner for the coordination of services to children with disabilities as required under Section [30.001](#).
  - (19) The board shall establish a date by which each school district and state institution shall provide to the commissioner the necessary information to determine the district's share of the cost of the education of a student enrolled in the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired or the Texas School for the Deaf as required under Section [30.003](#) and may adopt other rules concerning funding of the education of students enrolled in the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired or the Texas School for the Deaf as authorized under Section [30.003](#).
  - (20) The board shall adopt rules prescribing the form and content of information school districts are required to provide concerning programs offered by state institutions as required under Section [30.004](#).
  - (21) The board shall adopt rules concerning admission of students to the Texas School for the Deaf as required under Section [30.057](#).
  - (22) The board shall carry out powers and duties related to regional day school programs for the deaf as provided under Subchapter D, Chapter [30](#).

- (23) The board shall adopt and purchase or license instructional materials as provided by Chapter [31](#) and adopt rules required by that chapter.
  - (24) The board shall develop and update a long-range plan concerning technology in the public school system as required under Section [32.001](#) and shall adopt rules and policies concerning technology in public schools as provided by Chapter [32](#).
  - (25) The board shall conduct feasibility studies related to the telecommunications capabilities of school districts and regional education service centers as provided by Section [32.033](#).
  - (26) The board shall appoint a board of directors of the center for educational technology under Section [32.034](#).
  - (27) Repealed by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 4.001(b), eff. Sept. 1, 2001.
  - (28) The board shall approve a program for testing students for dyslexia and related disorders as provided by Section [38.003](#).
  - (29) The board shall perform duties in connection with the public school accountability system as prescribed by Chapters [39](#) and [39A](#).
  - (30) The board shall perform duties in connection with the Foundation School Program as prescribed by Chapter [48](#) [~~42~~].
  - (31) The board may invest the permanent school fund within the limits of the authority granted by Section [5](#), Article VII, Texas Constitution, and Chapter 43.
  - (32) The board shall adopt rules concerning school district budgets and audits of school district fiscal accounts as required under Subchapter A, Chapter [44](#).
  - (33) The board shall adopt an annual report on the status of the guaranteed bond program and may adopt rules as necessary for the administration of the program as provided under Subchapter C, Chapter [45](#).
  - (34) The board shall prescribe uniform bid blanks for school districts to use in selecting a depository bank as required under Section [45.206](#).
- (d) The board may adopt rules relating to school districts or regional education service centers only as required to carry out the specific duties assigned to the board by the constitution or under Subsection (c).
  - (e) An action of the board to adopt a rule under this section is effective only if the board includes in the rule's preamble a statement of the specific authority under Subsection (c) to adopt the rule.
  - (f) Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, a rule adopted by the board under this section does not take effect until the beginning of the school year that begins at least 90 days after the date on which the rule was adopted. The rule takes effect earlier if the rule's preamble specifies an earlier effective date and the reason for that earlier date and:
    - (1) the earlier effective date is a requirement of:
      - (A) a federal law; or
      - (B) a state law that specifically refers to this section and expressly requires the adoption of an earlier effective date; or
    - (2) on the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the board, the board makes a finding that an earlier effective date is necessary.

TEXAS EDUCATION CODE  
CHAPTER 28. COURSES OF STUDY; ADVANCEMENT  
SUBCHAPTER A. ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS; CURRICULUM

**TEC, §28.002. REQUIRED CURRICULUM.**

- (a) Each school district that offers kindergarten through grade 12 shall offer, as a required curriculum:
- (1) a foundation curriculum that includes:
    - (A) English language arts;
    - (B) mathematics;
    - (C) science; and
    - (D) social studies, consisting of Texas, United States, and world history, government, economics, with emphasis on the free enterprise system and its benefits, and geography; and
  - (2) an enrichment curriculum that includes:
    - (A) to the extent possible, languages other than English;
    - (B) health, with emphasis on:
      - (i) physical health, including the importance of proper nutrition and exercise;
      - (ii) mental health, including instruction about mental health conditions, substance abuse, skills to manage emotions, establishing and maintaining positive relationships, and responsible decision-making; and
      - (iii) suicide prevention, including recognizing suicide-related risk factors and warning signs;
    - (C) physical education;
    - (D) fine arts;
    - (E) career and technology education;
    - (F) technology applications;
    - (G) religious literature, including the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and New Testament, and its impact on history and literature; and
    - (H) personal financial literacy.
- (b) The State Board of Education by rule shall designate subjects constituting a well-balanced curriculum to be offered by a school district that does not offer kindergarten through grade 12.
- (b-1) In this section, "common core state standards" means the national curriculum standards developed by the Common Core State Standards Initiative.
- (b-2) The State Board of Education may not adopt common core state standards to comply with a duty imposed under this chapter.
- (b-3) A school district may not use common core state standards to comply with the requirement to provide instruction in the essential knowledge and skills at appropriate grade levels under Subsection (c).
- (b-4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code, a school district or open-enrollment charter school may not be required to offer any aspect of a common core state standards curriculum.

- (c) The State Board of Education, with the direct participation of educators, parents, business and industry representatives, and employers shall by rule identify the essential knowledge and skills of each subject of the required curriculum that all students should be able to demonstrate and that will be used in evaluating instructional materials under Chapter [31](#) and addressed on the assessment instruments required under Subchapter [B](#), Chapter [39](#). As a condition of accreditation, the board shall require each district to provide instruction in the essential knowledge and skills at appropriate grade levels and to make available to each high school student in the district an Algebra II course.
- (c-1) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules requiring students enrolled in grade levels six, seven, and eight to complete at least one fine arts course during those grade levels as part of a district's fine arts curriculum.
- (c-2) Each time the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board revises the Internet database of the coordinating board's official statewide inventory of workforce education courses, the State Board of Education shall by rule revise the essential knowledge and skills of any corresponding career and technology education curriculum as provided by Subsection (c).
- (c-3) In adopting the essential knowledge and skills for the technology applications curriculum for kindergarten through grade eight, the State Board of Education shall adopt essential knowledge and skills that include coding, computer programming, computational thinking, and cybersecurity. The State Board of Education shall review and revise, as needed, the essential knowledge and skills of the technology applications curriculum every five years to ensure the curriculum:
  - (1) is relevant to student education; and
  - (2) aligns with current or emerging professions.
- (d) The physical education curriculum required under Subsection (a)(2)(C) must be sequential, developmentally appropriate, and designed, implemented, and evaluated to enable students to develop the motor, self-management, and other skills, knowledge, attitudes, and confidence necessary to participate in physical activity throughout life. Each school district shall establish specific objectives and goals the district intends to accomplish through the physical education curriculum. In identifying the essential knowledge and skills of physical education, the State Board of Education shall ensure that the curriculum:
  - (1) emphasizes the knowledge and skills capable of being used during a lifetime of regular physical activity;
  - (2) is consistent with national physical education standards for:
    - (A) the information that students should learn about physical activity; and
    - (B) the physical activities that students should be able to perform;
  - (3) requires that, on a weekly basis, at least 50 percent of the physical education class be used for actual student physical activity and that the activity be, to the extent practicable, at a moderate or vigorous level;
  - (4) offers students an opportunity to choose among many types of physical activity in which to participate;
  - (5) offers students both cooperative and competitive games;
  - (6) meets the needs of students of all physical ability levels, including students who have a chronic health problem, disability, including a student who is a person with a disability described under Section [29.003](#)(b) or criteria developed by the agency in accordance with

that section, or other special need that precludes the student from participating in regular physical education instruction but who might be able to participate in physical education that is suitably adapted and, if applicable, included in the student's individualized education program;

- (7) takes into account the effect that gender and cultural differences might have on the degree of student interest in physical activity or on the types of physical activity in which a student is interested;
  - (8) teaches self-management and movement skills;
  - (9) teaches cooperation, fair play, and responsible participation in physical activity;
  - (10) promotes student participation in physical activity outside of school; and
  - (11) allows physical education classes to be an enjoyable experience for students.
- (e) American Sign Language is a language for purposes of Subsection (a)(2)(A). A public school may offer an elective course in the language.
- (f) A school district may offer courses for local credit in addition to those in the required curriculum. The State Board of Education shall:
- (1) be flexible in approving a course for credit for high school graduation under this subsection; and
  - (2) approve courses in cybersecurity for credit for high school graduation under this subsection.
- (g) A local instructional plan may draw on state curriculum frameworks and program standards as appropriate. Each district is encouraged to exceed minimum requirements of law and State Board of Education rule. Each district shall ensure that all children in the district participate actively in a balanced curriculum designed to meet individual needs. Before the adoption of a major curriculum initiative, including the use of a curriculum management system, a district must use a process that:
- (1) includes teacher input;
  - (2) provides district employees with the opportunity to express opinions regarding the initiative; and
  - (3) includes a meeting of the board of trustees of the district at which:
    - (A) information regarding the initiative is presented, including the cost of the initiative and any alternatives that were considered; and
    - (B) members of the public and district employees are given the opportunity to comment regarding the initiative.
- (g-1) A district may also offer a course or other activity, including an apprenticeship or training hours needed to obtain an industry-recognized credential or certificate, that is approved by the board of trustees for credit without obtaining State Board of Education approval if:
- (1) the district develops a program under which the district partners with a public or private institution of higher education and local business, labor, and community leaders to develop and provide the courses; and
  - (2) the course or other activity allows students to enter:
    - (A) a career or technology training program in the district's region of the state;

- (B) an institution of higher education without remediation;
  - (C) an apprenticeship training program; or
  - (D) an internship required as part of accreditation toward an industry-recognized credential or certificate for course credit.
- (g-2) Each school district shall annually report to the agency the names of the courses, programs, institutions of higher education, and internships in which the district's students have enrolled under Subsection (g-1) and the names of the courses and institutions of higher education in which the district's students have enrolled under Subsection (g-3). The agency shall make available information provided under this subsection to other districts.
- (g-3) A district may also offer a course in cybersecurity that is approved by the board of trustees for credit without obtaining State Board of Education approval if the district partners with a public or private institution of higher education that offers an undergraduate degree program in cybersecurity to develop and provide the course.
- (h) The State Board of Education and each school district shall require the teaching of informed American patriotism, Texas history, and the free enterprise system in the adoption of instructional materials for kindergarten through grade 12, including the founding documents of the United States. A primary purpose of the public school curriculum is to prepare thoughtful, informed citizens who understand the importance of patriotism and can function productively in a free enterprise society with appreciation for the fundamental democratic principles of our state and national heritage.
- (h-1) In adopting the essential knowledge and skills for the foundation curriculum under Subsection (a)(1), the State Board of Education shall, as appropriate, adopt essential knowledge and skills that develop each student's civic knowledge, including an understanding of:
- (1) the fundamental moral, political, and intellectual foundations of the American experiment in self-government;
  - (2) the history, qualities, traditions, and features of civic engagement in the United States;
  - (3) the structure, function, and processes of government institutions at the federal, state, and local levels; and
  - (4) the founding documents of the United States, including:
    - (A) the entirety of the Declaration of Independence;
    - (B) the entirety of the United States Constitution;
    - (C) the Federalist Papers, including the entirety of Essays 10 and 51;
    - (D) excerpts from Alexis de Tocqueville's *Democracy in America*;
    - (E) the transcript of the first Lincoln-Douglas debate;
    - (F) the writings of the founding fathers of the United States;
    - (G) the entirety of Frederick Douglass's speeches "The Meaning of July Fourth for the Negro" and "What the Black Man Wants"; and
    - (H) the entirety of Martin Luther King Jr.'s speech "I Have a Dream."

Text of subsection as added by Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1005 (H.B. [4509](#)), Sec. 3

Text of subsection effective until December 02, 2021

- (h-2) In providing instruction regarding the founding documents of the United States as described by Subsection (h-1)(4), a school district or open-enrollment charter school shall use those documents as part of the instructional materials for the instruction.

Text of subsection as added by Acts 2021, 87th Leg., R.S., Ch. 772 (H.B. [3979](#)), Sec. 1

Text of subsection effective until December 02, 2021

- (h-2) In adopting the essential knowledge and skills for the social studies curriculum, the State Board of Education shall adopt essential knowledge and skills that develop each student's civic knowledge, including an understanding of:
- (1) the fundamental moral, political, and intellectual foundations of the American experiment in self-government;
  - (2) the history, qualities, traditions, and features of civic engagement in the United States;
  - (3) the history of Native Americans;
  - (4) the structure, function, and processes of government institutions at the federal, state, and local levels;
  - (5) the founding documents of the United States, including:
    - (A) the Declaration of Independence;
    - (B) the United States Constitution;
    - (C) the Federalist Papers;
    - (D) the transcript of the first Lincoln-Douglas debate;
    - (E) the writings of and about the founding fathers and mothers and other founding persons of the United States, including the writings of:
      - (i) George Washington;
      - (ii) Ona Judge;
      - (iii) Thomas Jefferson;
      - (iv) Sally Hemings; and
      - (v) any other founding persons of the United States;
    - (F) writings from Frederick Douglass's newspaper, the North Star;
    - (G) the Book of Negroes;
    - (H) the Fugitive Slave Acts of 1793 and 1850;
    - (I) the Indian Removal Act;
    - (J) Thomas Jefferson's letter to the Danbury Baptists; and
    - (K) William Still's Underground Railroad Records;
  - (6) historical documents related to the civic accomplishments of marginalized populations, including documents related to:
    - (A) the Chicano movement;

- (B) women's suffrage and equal rights;
  - (C) the civil rights movement;
  - (D) the Snyder Act of 1924; and
  - (E) the American labor movement;
- (7) the history of white supremacy, including but not limited to the institution of slavery, the eugenics movement, and the Ku Klux Klan, and the ways in which it is morally wrong;
- (8) the history and importance of the civil rights movement, including the following documents:
- (A) Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" and "I Have a Dream" speech;
  - (B) the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. Section 2000a et seq.);
  - (C) the United States Supreme Court's decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*;
  - (D) the Emancipation Proclamation;
  - (E) the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
  - (F) the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution;
  - (G) the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit decision in *Mendez v. Westminster*;
  - (H) Frederick Douglass's *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*;
  - (I) the life and work of Cesar Chavez; and
  - (J) the life and work of Dolores Huerta;
- (9) the history and importance of the women's suffrage movement, including the following documents:
- (A) the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Section 10101 et seq.);
  - (B) the Fifteenth, Nineteenth, and Twenty-Sixth Amendments to the United States Constitution;
  - (C) Abigail Adams's letter "Remember the Ladies";
  - (D) the works of Susan B. Anthony; and
  - (E) the Declaration of Sentiments;
- (10) the life and works of Dr. Hector P. Garcia;
- (11) the American GI Forum;
- (12) the League of United Latin American Citizens; and
- (13) *Hernandez v. Texas* (1954).

Text of subsection effective on December 02, 2021



- (h-2) In adopting the essential knowledge and skills for the social studies curriculum for each grade level from kindergarten through grade 12, the State Board of Education shall adopt essential knowledge and skills that develop each student's civic knowledge, including:
- (1) an understanding of:
    - (A) the fundamental moral, political, entrepreneurial, and intellectual foundations of the American experiment in self-government;
    - (B) the history, qualities, traditions, and features of civic engagement in the United States;
    - (C) the structure, function, and processes of government institutions at the federal, state, and local levels; and
    - (D) the founding documents of the United States;
  - (2) the ability to:
    - (A) analyze and determine the reliability of information sources;
    - (B) formulate and articulate reasoned positions;
    - (C) understand the manner in which local, state, and federal government works and operates through the use of simulations and models of governmental and democratic processes;
    - (D) actively listen and engage in civil discourse, including discourse with those with different viewpoints; and
    - (E) participate as a citizen in a constitutional democracy by voting; and
  - (3) an appreciation of:
    - (A) the importance and responsibility of participating in civic life;
    - (B) a commitment to the United States and its form of government; and
    - (C) a commitment to free speech and civil discourse.

Text of subsection effective until December 02, 2021

- (h-3) For any social studies course in the required curriculum:
- (1) a teacher may not be compelled to discuss a particular current event or widely debated and currently controversial issue of public policy or social affairs;
  - (2) a teacher who chooses to discuss a topic described by Subdivision (1) shall, to the best of the teacher's ability, strive to explore the topic from diverse and contending perspectives without giving deference to any one perspective;
  - (3) a school district, open-enrollment charter school, or teacher may not require, make part of a course, or award a grade or course credit, including extra credit, for a student's:
    - (A) political activism, lobbying, or efforts to persuade members of the legislative or executive branch at the federal, state, or local level to take specific actions by direct communication; or
    - (B) participation in any internship, practicum, or similar activity involving social or public policy advocacy; and

- (4) a teacher, administrator, or other employee of a state agency, school district, or open-enrollment charter school may not:
- (A) be required to engage in training, orientation, or therapy that presents any form of race or sex stereotyping or blame on the basis of race or sex;
  - (B) require or make part of a course the concept that:
    - (i) one race or sex is inherently superior to another race or sex;
    - (ii) an individual, by virtue of the individual's race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously;
    - (iii) an individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of the individual's race;
    - (iv) members of one race or sex cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to race or sex;
    - (v) an individual's moral character, standing, or worth is necessarily determined by the individual's race or sex;
    - (vi) an individual, by virtue of the individual's race or sex, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex;
    - (vii) an individual should feel discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress on account of the individual's race or sex;
    - (viii) meritocracy or traits such as a hard work ethic are racist or sexist or were created by members of a particular race to oppress members of another race;
    - (ix) the advent of slavery in the territory that is now the United States constituted the true founding of the United States; or
    - (x) with respect to their relationship to American values, slavery and racism are anything other than deviations from, betrayals of, or failures to live up to, the authentic founding principles of the United States, which include liberty and equality; and
  - (C) require an understanding of The 1619 Project.

Text of subsection effective on December 02, 2021

(h-3) Repealed by Acts 2021, 87th Leg., 2nd C.S., Ch. 9 (S.B. 3), Sec. 6, eff. December 2, 2021.

Text of subsection effective until December 02, 2021

(h-4) A state agency, school district, or open-enrollment charter school may not accept private funding for the purpose of developing a curriculum, purchasing or selecting curriculum materials, or providing teacher training or professional development for a course described by Subsection (h-3)(3).

Text of subsection effective on December 02, 2021

(h-4) Repealed by Acts 2021, 87th Leg., 2nd C.S., Ch. 9 (S.B. [3](#)), Sec. 6, eff. December 2, 2021.

Text of subsection effective until December 02, 2021

(h-5) A school district or open-enrollment charter school may not implement, interpret, or enforce any rules or student code of conduct in a manner that would result in the punishment of a student for discussing, or have a chilling effect on student discussion of, the concepts described by Subsection (h-3)(4).

Text of subsection effective on December 02, 2021

(h-5) Repealed by Acts 2021, 87th Leg., 2nd C.S., Ch. 9 (S.B. [3](#)), Sec. 6, eff. December 2, 2021.

Text of subsection effective on December 02, 2021

(h-6) In providing instruction regarding the founding documents of the United States as described by Subsection (h-1)(4), a school district or open-enrollment charter school shall use those documents as part of the instructional materials for the instruction.

Text of subsection effective on December 02, 2021

(h-7) The agency shall ensure that each school district or open-enrollment charter school teaches civics education as part of the district's social studies curriculum in a manner consistent with the essential knowledge and skills adopted under Subsection (h-2).

Text of subsection effective on December 02, 2021

(h-8) Nothing in Subsection (h-2) or (h-7) may be construed as limiting the teaching of or instruction in the essential knowledge and skills adopted under this subchapter.

(i) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules for the implementation of this subchapter. Except as provided by Subsection (j), the board may not adopt rules that designate the methodology used by a teacher or the time spent by a teacher or a student on a particular task or subject.

(j) The State Board of Education by rule may require laboratory instruction in secondary science courses and may require a specific amount or percentage of time in a secondary science course that must be laboratory instruction.

- (k) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the Department of State Health Services and the Texas Diabetes Council, shall develop a diabetes education program that a school district may use in the health curriculum under Subsection (a)(2)(B).
- (l) A school district shall require a student enrolled in full-day prekindergarten, in kindergarten, or in a grade level below grade six to participate in moderate or vigorous daily physical activity for at least 30 minutes throughout the school year as part of the district's physical education curriculum or through structured activity during a school campus's daily recess. To the extent practicable, a school district shall require a student enrolled in prekindergarten on less than a full-day basis to participate in the same type and amount of physical activity as a student enrolled in full-day prekindergarten. A school district shall require students enrolled in grade levels six, seven, and eight to participate in moderate or vigorous daily physical activity for at least 30 minutes for at least four semesters during those grade levels as part of the district's physical education curriculum. If a school district determines, for any particular grade level below grade six, that requiring moderate or vigorous daily physical activity is impractical due to scheduling concerns or other factors, the district may as an alternative require a student in that grade level to participate in moderate or vigorous physical activity for at least 135 minutes during each school week. Additionally, a school district may as an alternative require a student enrolled in a grade level for which the district uses block scheduling to participate in moderate or vigorous physical activity for at least 225 minutes during each period of two school weeks. A school district must provide for an exemption for:
  - (1) any student who is unable to participate in the required physical activity because of illness or disability; and
  - (2) a middle school or junior high school student who participates in an extracurricular activity with a moderate or vigorous physical activity component that is considered a structured activity under rules adopted by the commissioner.
- (l-1) In adopting rules relating to an activity described by Subsection (l)(2), the commissioner may permit an exemption for a student who participates in a school-related activity or an activity sponsored by a private league or club only if the student provides proof of participation in the activity.
- (l-2) To encourage school districts to promote physical activity for children through classroom curricula for health and physical education, the agency, in consultation with the Department of State Health Services, shall designate nationally recognized health and physical education program guidelines that a school district may use in the health curriculum under Subsection (a)(2)(B) or the physical education curriculum under Subsection (a)(2)(C).
- (l-3)
  - (1) This subsection may be cited as "Lauren's Law."
  - (2) The State Board of Education, the Department of State Health Services, or a school district may not adopt any rule, policy, or program under Subsections (a), (k), (l), (l-1), or (l-2) that would prohibit a parent or grandparent of a student from providing any food product of the parent's or grandparent's choice to:
    - (A) children in the classroom of the child of the parent or grandparent on the occasion of the child's birthday; or
    - (B) children at a school-designated function.
- (m) Section [2001.039](#), Government Code, as added by Chapter 1499, Acts of the 76th Legislature, Regular Session, 1999, does not apply to a rule adopted by the State Board of Education under Subsection (c) or (d).

- (n) The State Board of Education may by rule develop and implement a plan designed to incorporate foundation curriculum requirements into the career and technology education curriculum under Subsection (a)(2)(E).
- (o) In approving career and technology courses, the State Board of Education must determine that at least 50 percent of the approved courses are cost-effective for a school district to implement.
- (p) The State Board of Education, in conjunction with the office of the attorney general, shall develop a parenting and paternity awareness program that a school district shall use in the district's high school health curriculum. A school district may use the program developed under this subsection in the district's middle or junior high school curriculum. At the discretion of the district, a teacher may modify the suggested sequence and pace of the program at any grade level. The program must:
  - (1) address parenting skills and responsibilities, including child support and other legal rights and responsibilities that come with parenthood;
  - (2) address relationship skills, including money management, communication skills, and marriage preparation; and
  - (3) in district middle, junior high, or high schools that do not have a family violence prevention program, address skills relating to the prevention of family violence.
- (p-2) A school district may develop or adopt research-based programs and curriculum materials for use in conjunction with the program developed under Subsection (p). The programs and curriculum materials may provide instruction in:
  - (1) child development;
  - (2) parenting skills, including child abuse and neglect prevention; and
  - (3) assertiveness skills to prevent teenage pregnancy, abusive relationships, and family violence.
- (p-3) The agency shall evaluate programs and curriculum materials developed under Subsection (p-2) and distribute to other school districts information regarding those programs and materials.
- (p-4) A student under 14 years of age may not participate in a program developed under Subsection (p) without the permission of the student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student.
- (q) Repealed by Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 211, Sec. 78(b)(1), eff. September 1, 2014.
- (r) In adopting the essential knowledge and skills for the health curriculum under Subsection (a)(2)(B), the State Board of Education shall adopt essential knowledge and skills that address the science, risk factors, causes, dangers, consequences, signs, symptoms, and treatment of substance abuse, including the use of illegal drugs, abuse of prescription drugs, abuse of alcohol such as by binge drinking or other excessive drinking resulting in alcohol poisoning, inhaling solvents, and other forms of substance abuse. The agency shall compile a list of evidence-based substance abuse awareness programs from which a school district shall choose a program to use in the district's middle school, junior high school, and high school health curriculum. In this subsection, "evidence-based substance abuse awareness program" means a program, practice, or strategy that has been proven to effectively prevent substance abuse among students, as determined by evaluations that are evidence-based.
- (s) In this subsection, "bullying" has the meaning assigned by Section [37.0832](#) and "harassment" has the meaning assigned by Section [37.001](#). In addition to any other essential knowledge and skills the State Board of Education adopts for the health curriculum under Subsection (a)(2)(B), the

board shall adopt for the health curriculum, in consultation with the Texas School Safety Center, essential knowledge and skills that include evidence-based practices that will effectively address awareness, prevention, identification, self-defense in response to, and resolution of and intervention in bullying and harassment.

- (t) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the commissioner of higher education and business and industry leaders, shall develop an advanced language course that a school district may use in the curriculum under Subsection (a)(2)(A) to provide students with instruction in industry-related terminology that prepares students to communicate in a language other than English in a specific professional, business, or industry environment.
- (w) Repealed by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 352 (H.B. [18](#)), Sec. 4.01(2), eff. December 1, 2019.
- (z) The State Board of Education by rule shall require each school district to incorporate instruction in digital citizenship into the district's curriculum, including information regarding the potential criminal consequences of cyberbullying. In this subsection:
  - (1) "Cyberbullying" has the meaning assigned by Section [37.0832](#).
  - (2) "Digital citizenship" means the standards of appropriate, responsible, and healthy online behavior, including the ability to access, analyze, evaluate, create, and act on all forms of digital communication.

TEXAS EDUCATION CODE  
TITLE 2. PUBLIC EDUCATION  
SUBTITLE F. CURRICULUM, PROGRAMS, AND SERVICES  
CHAPTER 28. COURSES OF STUDY; ADVANCEMENT  
SUBCHAPTER A. ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS; CURRICULUM

**TEC, §28.0021. PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY.**

- (a) The Texas essential knowledge and skills and, as applicable, Section 28.025 shall include instruction in personal financial literacy, including instruction in methods of paying for college and other postsecondary education and training, in:
  - (1) mathematics instruction in kindergarten through grade eight; and
  - (2) one or more courses offered for high school graduation.
- (b) Each school district and each open-enrollment charter school that offers a high school program shall provide an elective course in personal financial literacy that meets the requirements for a one-half elective credit under Section 28.025, using materials approved by the State Board of Education. The instruction in personal financial literacy must include instruction on completing the application for federal student aid provided by the United States Department of Education. In fulfilling the requirement to provide financial literacy instruction under this section, a school district or open-enrollment charter school may use an existing state, federal, private, or nonprofit program that provides students without charge the instruction described under this section.

TEXAS EDUCATION CODE  
CHAPTER 28. COURSES OF STUDY; ADVANCEMENT  
SUBCHAPTER B. ADVANCEMENT, PLACEMENT, CREDIT, AND  
ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT RECORD

**TEC, §28.025. HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AND CERTIFICATE; ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT RECORD.**

- (a) The State Board of Education by rule shall determine curriculum requirements for the foundation high school program that are consistent with the required curriculum under Section [28.002](#). The State Board of Education shall designate the specific courses in the foundation curriculum under Section [28.002\(a\)\(1\)](#) required under the foundation high school program. Except as provided by this section, the State Board of Education may not designate a specific course or a specific number of credits in the enrichment curriculum as requirements for the program.
- (b) A school district shall ensure that each student, on entering ninth grade, indicates in writing an endorsement under Subsection (c-1) that the student intends to earn. A district shall permit a student to choose, at any time, to earn an endorsement other than the endorsement the student previously indicated. A student may graduate under the foundation high school program without earning an endorsement if, after the student's sophomore year:
  - (1) the student and the student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student are advised by a school counselor of the specific benefits of graduating from high school with one or more endorsements; and
  - (2) the student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student files with a school counselor written permission, on a form adopted by the agency, allowing the student to graduate under the foundation high school program without earning an endorsement.
- (b-1) The State Board of Education by rule shall require that the curriculum requirements for the foundation high school program under Subsection (a) include a requirement that students successfully complete:
  - (1) four credits in English language arts under Section [28.002\(a\)\(1\)\(A\)](#), including one credit in English I, one credit in English II, one credit in English III, and one credit in an advanced English course authorized under Subsection (b-2);
  - (2) three credits in mathematics under Section [28.002\(a\)\(1\)\(B\)](#), including one credit in Algebra I, one credit in geometry, and one credit in any advanced mathematics course authorized under Subsection (b-2);
  - (3) three credits in science under Section [28.002\(a\)\(1\)\(C\)](#), including one credit in biology, one credit in any advanced science course authorized under Subsection (b-2), and one credit in integrated physics and chemistry or in an additional advanced science course authorized under Subsection (b-2);
  - (4) three credits in social studies under Section [28.002\(a\)\(1\)\(D\)](#), including one credit in United States history, at least one-half credit in government and at least one-half credit in economics or personal financial literacy & economics, and one credit in world geography or world history;
  - (5) except as provided under Subsections (b-12), (b-13), and (b-14), two credits in the same language in a language other than English under Section [28.002\(a\)\(2\)\(A\)](#);
  - (6) five elective credits;
  - (7) one credit in fine arts under Section [28.002\(a\)\(2\)\(D\)](#); and



- (8) except as provided by Subsection (b-11), one credit in physical education under Section [28.002\(a\)\(2\)\(C\)](#).
- (b-2) In adopting rules under Subsection (b-1), the State Board of Education shall:
- (1) provide for a student to comply with the curriculum requirements for an advanced English course under Subsection (b-1)(1), for an advanced mathematics course under Subsection (b-1)(2), and for any advanced science course under Subsection (b-1)(3) by successfully completing a course in the appropriate content area that has been approved as an advanced course by board rule or that is offered as an advanced course for credit without board approval as provided by Section [28.002\(g-1\)](#); and
  - (2) allow a student to comply with the curriculum requirements for the third and fourth mathematics credits under Subsection (b-1)(2) or the third and fourth science credits under Subsection (b-1)(3) by successfully completing an advanced career and technical course designated by the State Board of Education as containing substantively similar and rigorous academic content.
- (b-3) In adopting rules for purposes of Subsection (b-2), the State Board of Education must approve a variety of advanced English, mathematics, and science courses that may be taken to comply with the foundation high school program requirements, provided that each approved course prepares students to enter the workforce successfully or postsecondary education without remediation.
- (b-4) A school district may offer the curriculum described in Subsections (b-1)(1) through (4) in an applied manner. Courses delivered in an applied manner must cover the essential knowledge and skills, and the student shall be administered the applicable end-of-course assessment instrument as provided by Sections [39.023\(c\)](#) and [39.025](#).
- (b-5) A school district may offer a mathematics or science course to be taken by a student after completion of Algebra II and physics. A course approved under this subsection must be endorsed by an institution of higher education as a course for which the institution would award course credit or as a prerequisite for a course for which the institution would award course credit.
- (b-6) A school district may allow a student to enroll concurrently in Algebra I and geometry.
- (b-7) The State Board of Education, in coordination with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, shall adopt rules to ensure that a student may comply with the curriculum requirements under the foundation high school program or for an endorsement under Subsection (c-1) by successfully completing appropriate courses in the core curriculum of an institution of higher education under Section [61.822](#). Notwithstanding Subsection (b-15) or (c) of this section, Section [39.025](#), or any other provision of this code and notwithstanding any school district policy, a student who has completed the core curriculum of an institution of higher education under Section [61.822](#), as certified by the institution in accordance with commissioner rule, is considered to have earned a distinguished level of achievement under the foundation high school program and is entitled to receive a high school diploma from the appropriate high school as that high school is determined in accordance with commissioner rule. A student who is considered to have earned a distinguished level of achievement under the foundation high school program under this subsection may apply for admission to an institution of higher education for the first semester or other academic term after the semester or other academic term in which the student completes the core curriculum.
- (b-8) Repealed by Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 211, Sec. 78(b)(3), eff. September 1, 2014.
- (b-9) A school district, with the approval of the commissioner, may allow a student to satisfy the fine arts credit required under Subsection (b-1)(7) by participating in a community-based fine arts program not provided by the school district in which the student is enrolled. The fine arts program must provide instruction in the

essential knowledge and skills identified for fine arts by the State Board of Education under Section [28.002](#)(c). The fine arts program may be provided on or off a school campus and outside the regular school day.

- (b-10) A school district, with the approval of the commissioner, may allow a student to comply with the curriculum requirements for the physical education credit required under Subsection (b-1)(8) by participating in a private or commercially sponsored physical activity program provided on or off a school campus and outside the regular school day.
- (b-11) In adopting rules under Subsection (b-1), the State Board of Education shall allow a student who is unable to participate in physical activity due to disability or illness to substitute one credit in English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies, one credit in a course that is offered for credit as provided by Section [28.002](#)(g-1), or one academic elective credit for the physical education credit required under Subsection (b-1)(8). A credit allowed to be substituted under this subsection may not also be used by the student to satisfy a graduation requirement other than completion of the physical education credit. The rules must provide that the determination regarding a student's ability to participate in physical activity will be made by:
  - (1) if the student receives special education services under Subchapter [A](#), Chapter [29](#), the student's admission, review, and dismissal committee;
  - (2) if the student does not receive special education services under Subchapter [A](#), Chapter [29](#), but is covered by Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794), the committee established for the student under that Act; or
  - (3) if each of the committees described by Subdivisions (1) and (2) is inapplicable, a committee established by the school district of persons with appropriate knowledge regarding the student.
- (b-12) In adopting rules under Subsection (b-1), the State Board of Education shall adopt criteria to allow a student to comply with the curriculum requirements for the two credits in a language other than English required under Subsection (b-1)(5) by substituting two credits in computer programming languages, including computer coding.
- (b-13) In adopting rules under Subsection (b-1), the State Board of Education shall allow a student to substitute credit in another appropriate course for the second credit in the same language in a language other than English otherwise required by Subsection (b-1)(5) if the student, in completing the first credit required under Subsection (b-1)(5), demonstrates that the student is unlikely to be able to complete the second credit. The board rules must establish:
  - (1) the standards and, as applicable, the appropriate school personnel for making a determination under this subsection; and
  - (2) appropriate substitute courses for purposes of this subsection.
- (b-14) In adopting rules under Subsection (b-1), the State Board of Education shall allow a student who, due to disability, is unable to complete two courses in the same language in a language other than English, as provided under Subsection (b-1)(5), to substitute for those credits two credits in English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies or two credits in career and technology education, technology applications, or other academic electives. A credit allowed to be substituted under this subsection may not also be used by the student to satisfy a graduation credit requirement other than credit for completion of a language other than English. The rules must provide that the determination regarding a student's ability to participate in language-other-than-English courses will be made by:
  - (1) if the student receives special education services under Subchapter [A](#), Chapter [29](#), the student's admission, review, and dismissal committee; or

- (2) if the student does not receive special education services under Subchapter [A](#), Chapter [29](#), but is covered by Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794), the committee established for the student under that Act.
- (b-15) A student may earn a distinguished level of achievement under the foundation high school program by successfully completing:
  - (1) four credits in mathematics, which must include Algebra II and the courses described by Subsection (b-1)(2);
  - (2) four credits in science, which must include the courses described by Subsection (b-1)(3);
  - (3) the remaining curriculum requirements under Subsection (b-1); and
  - (4) the curriculum requirements for at least one endorsement under Subsection (c-1).
- (b-16) A student may satisfy an elective credit required under Subsection (b-1)(6) with a credit earned to satisfy the additional curriculum requirements for the distinguished level of achievement under the foundation high school program or an endorsement under Subsection (c-1). This subsection may apply to more than one elective credit.
- (b-17) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to ensure that a student may comply with the curriculum requirements under Subsection (b-1)(6) by successfully completing an advanced career and technical course, including a course that may lead to an industry-recognized credential or certificate or an associate degree.
- (b-18) In adopting rules under Subsection (b-1), the State Board of Education shall allow a student to comply with the curriculum requirements under Subsection (b-1) by successfully completing a dual credit course.
- (b-19) In adopting rules under Subsection (b-1), the State Board of Education shall adopt criteria to allow a student to comply with curriculum requirements for the world geography or world history credit under Subsection (b-1)(4) by successfully completing a combined world history and world geography course developed by the State Board of Education.
- (b-20) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to include the instruction developed under Section [28.012](#) in one or more courses in the required curriculum for students in grade levels 9 through 12.
- (b-21) In adopting rules under Subsection (b-1), the State Board of Education shall adopt criteria to allow a student to comply with the curriculum requirement for one credit under Subsection (b-1)(5) by successfully completing at an elementary school either a dual language immersion program under Section [28.0051](#) or a course in American Sign Language.
- (b-22) In adopting rules under Subsection (b-1), the State Board of Education shall ensure that a personal financial literacy & economics course taken to comply with the curriculum requirement under Subsection (b-1)(4) allocates:
  - (1) two-thirds of instruction time to instruction in personal financial literacy; and
  - (2) one-third of instruction time to instruction in economics.
- (b-23) The agency shall:
  - (1) develop a list of free, open-source, and publicly available curricula that may be used by a school district to provide a personal financial literacy & economics course that satisfies the curriculum requirement under Subsection (b-1)(4); and

- (2) seek, accept, and spend any federal or private grant funds and gifts that are available for the purpose of providing a personal financial literacy & economics course as part of the foundation high school program.
- (c) A person may receive a diploma if the person is eligible for a diploma under Section [28.0251](#). In other cases, a student may graduate and receive a diploma only if:
  - (1) the student successfully completes the curriculum requirements identified by the State Board of Education under Subsection (a) and complies with Sections [28.0256](#) and [39.025](#); or
  - (2) the student successfully completes an individualized education program developed under Section [29.005](#).
- (c-1) A student may earn an endorsement on the student's transcript by successfully completing curriculum requirements for that endorsement adopted by the State Board of Education by rule. The State Board of Education by rule shall provide students with multiple options for earning each endorsement, including, to the greatest extent possible, coherent sequences of courses. The State Board of Education by rule must permit a student to enroll in courses under more than one endorsement curriculum before the student's junior year. An endorsement under this subsection may be earned in any of the following categories:
  - (1) science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), which includes courses directly related to science, including environmental science, technology, including computer science, cybersecurity, and computer coding, engineering, and advanced mathematics;
  - (2) business and industry, which includes courses directly related to database management, information technology, communications, accounting, finance, marketing, graphic design, architecture, construction, welding, logistics, automotive technology, agricultural science, and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning;
  - (3) public services, which includes courses directly related to health sciences and occupations, mental health, education and training, law enforcement, and culinary arts and hospitality;
  - (4) arts and humanities, which includes courses directly related to political science, world languages, cultural studies, English literature, history, and fine arts; and
  - (5) multidisciplinary studies, which allows a student to:
    - (A) select courses from the curriculum of each endorsement area described by Subdivisions (1) through (4); and
    - (B) earn credits in a variety of advanced courses from multiple content areas sufficient to complete the distinguished level of achievement under the foundation high school program.
- (c-2) In adopting rules under Subsection (c-1), the State Board of Education shall:
  - (1) require a student in order to earn any endorsement to successfully complete:
    - (A) four credits in mathematics, which must include:
      - (i) the courses described by Subsection (b-1)(2); and
      - (ii) an additional advanced mathematics course authorized under Subsection (b-2) or an advanced career and technology course designated by the State Board of Education;
    - (B) four credits in science, which must include:

- (i) the courses described by Subsection (b-1)(3); and
  - (ii) an additional advanced science course authorized under Subsection (b-2) or an advanced career and technology course designated by the State Board of Education; and
- (C) two elective credits in addition to the elective credits required under Subsection (b-1)(6); and
- (2) develop additional curriculum requirements for each endorsement with the direct participation of educators and business, labor, and industry representatives, and shall require each school district to report to the agency the categories of endorsements under Subsection (c-1) for which the district offers all courses for curriculum requirements, as determined by board rule.
- (c-3) In adopting rules under Subsection (c-1), the State Board of Education shall adopt criteria to allow a student participating in the arts and humanities endorsement under Subsection (c-1)(4), with the written permission of the student's parent or a person standing in parental relation to the student, to comply with the curriculum requirements for science required under Subsection (c-2)(1)(B)(ii) by substituting for an advanced course requirement a course related to that endorsement.
- (c-4) Each school district must make available to high school students courses that allow a student to complete the curriculum requirements for at least one endorsement under Subsection (c-1). A school district that offers only one endorsement curriculum must offer the multidisciplinary studies endorsement curriculum.
- (c-5) A student may earn a performance acknowledgment on the student's transcript by satisfying the requirements for that acknowledgment adopted by the State Board of Education by rule. An acknowledgment under this subsection may be earned:
  - (1) for outstanding performance:
    - (A) in a dual credit course;
    - (B) in bilingualism and biliteracy;
    - (C) on a college advanced placement test or international baccalaureate examination;
    - (D) on an established, valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced preliminary college preparation assessment instrument used to measure a student's progress toward readiness for college and the workplace; or
    - (E) on an established, valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced assessment instrument used by colleges and universities as part of their undergraduate admissions process; or
  - (2) for earning a state recognized or nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license.
- (c-6) Notwithstanding Subsection (c), a person may receive a diploma if the person is eligible for a diploma under Section [28.0258](#).
- (c-7) Subject to Subsection (c-8), a student who is enrolled in a special education program under Subchapter [A](#), Chapter [29](#), may earn an endorsement on the student's transcript by:
  - (1) successfully completing, with or without modification of the curriculum:
    - (A) the curriculum requirements identified by the State Board of Education under Subsection (a); and

- (B) the additional endorsement curriculum requirements prescribed by the State Board of Education under Subsection (c-2); and
- (2) successfully completing all curriculum requirements for that endorsement adopted by the State Board of Education:
  - (A) without modification of the curriculum; or
  - (B) with modification of the curriculum, provided that the curriculum, as modified, is sufficiently rigorous as determined by the student's admission, review, and dismissal committee.
- (c-8) For purposes of Subsection (c-7), the admission, review, and dismissal committee of a student in a special education program under Subchapter [A](#), Chapter [29](#), shall determine whether the student is required to achieve satisfactory performance on an end-of-course assessment instrument to earn an endorsement on the student's transcript.
- (c-10) In adopting rules under Subsection (c-1), the State Board of Education shall adopt or select five technology applications courses on cybersecurity to be included in a cybersecurity pathway for the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics endorsement.
- (d) A school district may issue a certificate of coursework completion to a student who successfully completes the curriculum requirements identified by the State Board of Education under Subsection (a) but who fails to comply with Section [39.025](#). A school district may allow a student who receives a certificate to participate in a graduation ceremony with students receiving high school diplomas.
- (e) Each school district shall report the academic achievement record of students who have completed the foundation high school program on transcript forms adopted by the State Board of Education. The transcript forms adopted by the board must be designed to clearly identify whether a student received a diploma or a certificate of coursework completion.
- (e-1) A school district shall clearly indicate a distinguished level of achievement under the foundation high school program as described by Subsection (b-15), an endorsement described by Subsection (c-1), and a performance acknowledgment described by Subsection (c-5) on the transcript of a student who satisfies the applicable requirements. The State Board of Education shall adopt rules as necessary to administer this subsection.
- (e-2) At the end of each school year, each school district shall report through the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) the number of district students who, during that school year, were:
  - (1) enrolled in the foundation high school program;
  - (2) pursuing the distinguished level of achievement under the foundation high school program as provided by Subsection (b-15); and
  - (3) enrolled in a program to earn an endorsement described by Subsection (c-1).
- (e-3) Information reported under Subsection (e-2) must be disaggregated by all student groups served by the district, including categories of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, sex, and populations served by special programs, including students in special education programs under Subchapter [A](#), Chapter [29](#).
- (f) A school district shall issue a certificate of attendance to a student who receives special education services under Subchapter [A](#), Chapter [29](#), and who has completed four years of high school but has not completed the student's individualized education program. A school district shall allow a student who receives a certificate to participate in a graduation ceremony with students receiving high school diplomas. A student

may participate in only one graduation ceremony under this subsection. This subsection does not preclude a student from receiving a diploma under Subsection (c)(2).

- (g) Repealed by Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 211, Sec. 78(b)(3), eff. September 1, 2014.
- (h) Expired.
- (i) If an 11th or 12th grade student who is homeless or in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services transfers to a different school district and the student is ineligible to graduate from the district to which the student transfers, the district from which the student transferred shall award a diploma at the student's request, if the student meets the graduation requirements of the district from which the student transferred.